



Update on Site Activities/ Opportunity to Talk with U.S. EPA

Lake Calumet Cluster Site
Chicago, Illinois

September 2021

We would like to hear from you!

See the back of this fact sheet for an opportunity to talk one-on-one with U.S. EPA.

Contact U.S. EPA

For more information about the site contact:

Cheryl Allen

Community Involvement Coordinator
312-353-6196
allen.cheryl@epa.gov

Shari Kolak

Remedial Project Manager
312-886-6151
kolak.shari@epa.gov

You may call U.S. EPA's Chicago office toll-free at 800-621-8431, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

You may review site-related documents at:

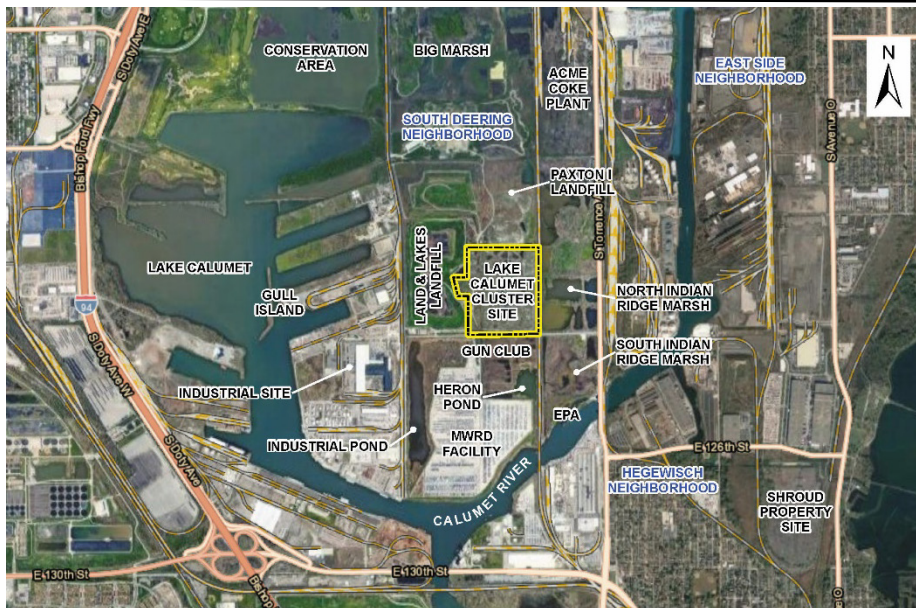
Chicago Public Library, Hegewisch
3048 E. 130th St.
Chicago, IL 60633

Harold Washington Library Center
400 S. State St.
Chicago, IL 60605

On the Web:

Site documents can be found on the following website:

www.epa.gov/superfund/lake-calumet-cluster



Map showing the location of the Lake Calumet Cluster site bordered in yellow.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is overseeing investigation and cleanup activities at the Lake Calumet Cluster Superfund site. The 87-acre site in southeast Chicago is made up of four separate parcels including U.S. Drum, Alburn Incinerator, a portion of the Paxton Lagoons, and an unnamed parcel. The site is bordered by Land & Lakes Landfill to the west; Paxton I & II Landfills to the north; 122nd Street to the south; and Norfolk Southern Railroad ROW and Indian Ridge Marsh to the east. (See map above.)

The area was originally wetlands that were filled with slag, dredge spoils, demolition debris and other waste material from nearby steel mills and industries from the 1900s through the 1970s. From the 1940s to 1992, the area was used for unpermitted municipal, industrial, and chemical waste disposal. In 1998, Illinois EPA began investigating the site, which led to a decision in 2006 to install a cap, or cover, over a portion of the site. Installation of the cap began in 2007, but construction stopped in 2008 due to the lack of funding. Today, the cap remains partially constructed.

In 2008, U.S. EPA took over the investigation at the site. In 2010, the site was placed on the National Priorities List, or NPL. The NPL is a list of the nation's Superfund sites. Under the Superfund program, the companies identified as potentially responsible parties for the contamination, referred to as PRPs, were asked to complete an investigation of the groundwater before beginning work on the cap. From 2015 – 2017, 57 groundwater samples were collected from 13 monitoring wells around the site. In addition, the PRPs were requested to sample the surface water in the Indian Ridge Marsh. In 2020, two rounds of surface water samples were taken. U.S. EPA is in the process of reviewing the results of the sampling. The results will be available in the final investigation report, called a remedial investigation report, expected to be completed in 2023.

We would like to hear from you!

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency representatives would like to talk with area residents about its ongoing investigation and cleanup of the Lake Calumet Cluster site.


Cheryl Allen, U.S. EPA Community Coordinator, and Shari Kolak, U.S. EPA Remedial Project Manager, will be available to talk with you over the phone on **Oct. 12, 13 or 14**, between **10 a.m. and 7 p.m.** During the 30-minute session, U.S. EPA will ask questions to help us understand your concerns and questions about ongoing work at the site.

The information gathered from residents will be used to create a Community Involvement Plan, which is a communication strategy guide the agency uses to enable meaningful community involvement throughout the Superfund investigation and cleanup process.

If you would like to schedule a time to talk with U.S. EPA, please contact Meg Moosa, U. S. EPA contractor, at: 440-688-4006 or meg.moosa@tetrattech.com.

You can also contact Cheryl Allen toll-free at 800-621-8431, Ext. 36196, weekdays 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. or at allen.cheryl@epa.gov.

For more information on the site, visit www.epa.gov/superfund/lake-calumet-cluster.

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